

SENATE BILL REPORT

ESHB 2284

As of April 21, 2007

Title: An act relating to the training of and collective bargaining over the training of care providers.

Brief Description: Addressing the training of and collective bargaining over the training of care providers.

Sponsors: House Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Representatives Green, Erickson, Sells, Strow, Seaquist, Hinkle, Wallace, Priest, Hasegawa, Fromhold, P. Sullivan, Conway, Miloscia, Linville, Kenney, O'Brien, Simpson and Hunt).

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Labor, Commerce, Research & Development:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Staff: Jennifer Strus (786-7316)

Background: Individual providers and agency home care workers provide long-term care services to elderly and disabled clients who are eligible for publicly-funded services through the Department of Social and Health Services' (DSHS) Aging and Adult Services and Developmental Disabilities programs. These workers provide DSHS clients with personal care assistance with various tasks such as toileting, bathing, dressing, ambulating, meal preparation, and household chores.

Individual providers and agency home care workers must meet certain training requirements set forth in statute and in rules adopted by DSHS. These training requirements include the following:

- an orientation which provides basic introductory information appropriate to the in-home setting and the population served;
- basic training as to the core knowledge and skills needed to provide personal care services effectively and safely; and
- continuing education designed to increase and keep current a person's knowledge and skills.

Wages, benefits, and working conditions for individual providers are determined solely through collective bargaining. The Governor must submit, as part of the proposed biennial or supplemental operating budget submitted to the Legislature, a request for funds necessary to implement the compensation and fringe benefits' provisions of a collective bargaining agreement or binding interest arbitration award. The Legislature must approve or reject the

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Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: The section establishing the Home and Community Long-Term Care Workforce Development Workgroup becomes effective immediately. The portions of the bill pertaining to collective bargaining take effect on July 1, 2008.